Mid-day Meal Scheme in Gujarat

987. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, popularly called Mid-day Meal Scheme, in Gujarat; and

(b) the role being played by the Gujarat Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (popularly called Mid-day Meal Scheme) the Government of Gujarat is providing cooked meals to the children of primary classes (I-V) in Government, Local Bodies and Government Aided Schools.

(b) In addition to central support comprising of food grains and admissible transportation charges, the Government of Gujarat is bearing the conversion cost covering items, such as oil, vegetables, pulses, remuneration for kitchen staff etc. The State Government also make all administrative arrangements for implementation of the cooked meal scheme.

South Indian Language Teachers in Gujarat

988. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are releasing Central Grants to Gujarat for appointment of language teachers in schools in the State, to teach South Indian languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last five years and the number of teachers appointed, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) what other measures are being taken to promote modern Indian languages in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing the

central scheme for the Appointment of Modern Indian Language Teachers. However, no Grants have been released . to the Government of Gujarat for the appointment of language teachers in schools in the State to teach South Indian languages as no such proposal has been received from the State Government.

(c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development implements various schemes for language promotion in all states and UTs including Gujarat through its subordinate offices/autonomous bodies such as tlje Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra, Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi, National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language, Vadodara, etc.

The activities of these Institutions include linguistic studies and research, material production including audio-visual material, the publication of journals & magazines, the publication of bilingual and trilingual dictionaries, conversation guides, providing financial assistance to voluntary organizations, organizing seminars and conferences, giving awards to writers, training graduate teachers to better teach Indian languages, etc.

In addition, the centre also implements three schemes under which salaries are provided for teachers in state government schools to teach different modern Indian languges.

New IIT Institute at Bellary

989. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to start new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the country;

(b) whether Karnataka Government has requested to establish an IIT at Nandihally in Bellary district;

(c) if so, whether Government have agreed to the same; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA